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## ARTICLE LX.

*We are highly indebted to our learned Correspondent for the judicious Remarks sent us: We shall always be proud of such curious Pieces as both instruct and divert the Public.*

### REMARKS upon JOSEPHUS.

SIR,



Have received your last kind and obliging letter, wherein you desire me to give you my opinion of *Josephus*, the famous *Jewish* historian; which you say you are the more willing to hear, because his writings are at present very much in vogue, and in the compass of a year have been translated into *English* by two learned men, one of whom has for many years made a considerable figure in the republic of letters; I mean, the famous *Mr. Whiston*, whose version and judicious notes I have lately read with a great deal of pleasure. In order, Sir, to gra-

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tify your request, I shall beg leave to consider this writer under a double point of view: 1<sup>st</sup>, As to his stile, and the usefulness of his history; 2<sup>dly</sup>, As to that which is *Historici Palmarium*, the chief and most essential part of an historian, sincerity and truth. As to his stile, it cannot be denied to be very pure and elegant, and worthy of one that had been bred in the *Athenian* schools. It has often been wonder'd that *Lucian*, who was a *Syrian* by birth, born on the banks of the *Euphrates*, should yet equal the elegance of the purest writers among the *Greeks*. But I think it still more surprising, that *Josephus*, who had his birth and education in a country where

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where the *Greek* learning and language were so little cultivated and regarded, and whose studies had been turned so much another way; I mean, to the knowledge of the religion and laws of his country; in which, as he tells \* us himself, he had made so great and early a progress, that, when he was but fourteen years old, he was often consulted in hard and difficult points by the most eminent rabbi's and doctors of the *Jews*: that such a one, I say, should attain to that beauty of style, and true attic way of writing, as to equal, if not surpass the most elegant writers among the *Greeks*; which, doubtless, must have required great study and application, and also a very happy genius for languages. And as the writings of *Josephus* are so pure as to the style, so are they also very useful and instructive; those parts especially that relate to the *Roman* history, which contain several curious particulars concerning the manners and customs, the civil and military affairs of that people, as are not to be met with in the *Roman* authors themselves: an advantage that may be reaped from other *Greek* writers of the *Roman* history; † as *Polybius*, *Dionysius*, *Halicarnassus*, *Xiphilon*, *Zonaras*, and *Herodian*; who, writing for the instruction of their own countrymen, have taken notice of abundance of particulars concerning the laws, customs, and religion

of the *Romans*, which the *Latin* writers themselves did not think it worth their while to mention, as taking it for granted that they were known to their own nation. Having thus done justice to the style of *Josephus*, and the particular usefulness of his history, I proceed to examine the second point I proposed, what I call the *Palmarium Historici*, the chief and most essential part of an historian is sincerity and truth; and this I shall try by the rule which *Tully* lays down as the true standard of a good historian, *That he should not be afraid to speak any truth, nor dare to utter any falsehood*. In both which, I dare say, there is hardly an historian more faulty and defective than *Josephus*: and these my reflections I shall reduce to two heads; 1<sup>st</sup>, The omissions he has been guilty of; 2<sup>dly</sup>, The direct faults he has committed against the truth of history. But, before I proceed, I beg leave to make but two remarks, which will serve to pave the way for my following observations: the first is, that, as he wrote his *Jewish Antiquities* not for the instruction of his own countrymen, but for the information of the *Greeks* and *Romans*, he is apt now and then, as learned men ‡ have observed, to give into the marvellous, and to sling in some circumstances which might give his writings an heathenish air, and render them more agreeable and palatable to

\* Vide Selden de Success. l. 1.

† For this reason we see *Livy* himself follows and copies both *Polybius*, *Dionysius*, and *Halicarnassus*; who, according to *Scaliger*, have written more fully and exactly of the *Roman* affairs than even the *Romans* themselves.

‡ See Mr. *Lardner's* *Probability of the Facts*, &c.

those for whom they were chiefly design'd: *secondly*, That, as he was sensible of the hatred and contempt the *Romans* and the *Greeks* had for his nation and religion, and the many prejudices they entertain'd against them, he has carefully avoided and omitted every thing that might give them the least offence, and taken all opportunities, at the expence of truth, and sometimes of religion, to remove their prejudices, and to create a regard and veneration for the *Jewish* nation, and its religion and laws. Be pleased, Sir, to take these two observations along with you, because they will enable you the better to enter into the spirit of *Josephus*, and to make a truer judgment of the character of this writer. To begin then with his omissions: *1st*, In the account he has given his readers of the actions of *Herod the Great*, he has not taken the least notice of the massacre of the innocents, commanded by that prince; whether out of regard to his memory (tho' it must be confessed, that on other occasions he has taken pretty great freedoms with his character;) or, which I rather believe, lest he should offend and disoblige some of his friends and relations, which might be still alive at the time that he wrote. But tho' it cannot be thought *Josephus* should shew any great respect to the New Testament, where this barbarous fact is so fully recorded, yet one might expect he should have had a greater regard for the old one, which, as

a *Jew*, he must have had some veneration for; yet he has taken great freedoms with these holy writings, and omitted several material and remarkable passages in them; of which, for shortness sake, I shall mention only two: and, *1st*, Tho' he has been very full and particular in the accounts he hath given of the *Jewish* festivals, of the passover, the pentecost, and the feast of the tabernacles, he has observed a deep silence in relation to the sabbath, because he knew the heathens made a jest of it, and turned it into ridicule, as appears from the *Roman* writers, and especially the poets, who have had occasion to make any mention of the affairs of the *Jews*. But the most material omission of *Josephus* is that of the golden calf, of the festival appointed on that occasion by *Aaron*, of the anger of *Moses*, and his breaking the tables of the law; of which no probable account can be given, but that he thought it would be a disgrace to his nation, which, after so many mercies and deliverances, could be guilty of so senseless a piece of stupidity, and such a shameful ingratitude to their Lord and Benefactor. This gave occasion to a severe but just reflection of a learned man, which *Dr. Bernard* found in the margin of an old M.S. of this writer: "*Josephus* (saith the annotator) you wilfully omit the passage of the golden calf, for fear you should reflect upon your ancestors." \* But, not contented with these omissions,

\* Παρελείπεις ὁ Ἰουδήτις τὴν μεγάλαν αἰδέα τῶν προγόνων. See *Watson's Miscellaneous Discourses*.



he has often disguised those very faults which he has recorded in his works. Thus, 1<sup>st</sup>, when he speaks of the death of *Herod the Younger*, instead of the angel that is mention'd in the *Acts*, he brings in an owl to forewarn that prince of his approaching end; and this, I make no doubt, to gratify the *Greeks* and the *Romans*, who were very fond of those omens, gave great credit to such apparitions, and look'd upon this bird particularly as an omen and messenger of death.\* But tho' such a fiction might be allowable in an heathen writer, it can by no means be excused in a priest of the *Jews*, who gave no credit to omens and auguries, and could only serve to confirm the heathen in these their vain superstitions. Thus, 2<sup>dly</sup>, 1 *Sam.* xviii. 25. we read that king *Saul*, in order to bring *David* into a snare, before he would consent to give him his daughter to wife, enjoyn'd him to bring a hundred foreskins of the *Philistines*; fearing, that if he had required so many heads of the enemies, he might have brought him the heads of so many *Jews*, that had been killed in the battle. Besides, 'tis probable, that, as *Saul* knew the hatred and aversion the *Philistines* had for circumcision, he might, by this, think to render them more fierce and inveterate against *David*. But, as our historian was afraid that the mention of so many *foreskins* might found odd in the ears of the *Greeks* and *Romans*, and by them

be turn'd into jest and ridicule, he has carefully avoided that expression, and says only that *Saul* demanded so many of the enemies heads; and so drops a very material proof of the cunning and policy of *Saul*, his malice against *David*, the desire of his death, and his thirst after his blood. But these omissions of *Josephus*, and his disguising the sacred history, are trifling and inconsiderable, if compared with the falsehoods and fables that are so often to be found in his writings. I could give you several instances of these, but, to avoid prolixity, shall only mention two or three of them. The first is the account he gives of the two columns or pillars in *Syria*, which he says were erected by the sons of *Seth*; on which were written the arcana of the mathematics, and the secrets of arts and sciences, that they might not be lost, but safely transmitted to posterity. But as this piece of history is neither attested by the holy scriptures, nor by any of the ancient writers, learned men † have long since rejected it as a fable, and the invention of *Josephus*. Besides, allowing such pillars might really be seen in his time in *Syria*, who can warrant them to have been the work of the children of *Seth*? 2<sup>dly</sup>, He gives a false and ridiculous account of the image *Tera- phim*, or (as our translators have it) of the pillow of goats-hair, which *David's* wife put into his bed, to deceive *Saul's* messengers, and to facilitate his escape. *Cher-*

\* *Ferali carmine Bubo, &c.* Virg. *Æn.* L. 4. V. 162.

*Funeræque graves (Bubo) edidit ore sonos,* Ovid, in *ibid.* V. 223.

† Heidegg. *Hist. Patriarch.* p. 315.



*hazim* indeed signifies a pillow of goats-hair; and as the Septuagint have translated it by the word *Liver*, *Josephus* takes occasion to assert, that *Michol* put into the bed the liver of an animal fresh kill'd, which, by its palpitation, might put a stop to a man's breathing and sleeping in bed, and deceive those who, by the king's order, came to search for and apprehend him. As if the liver of a beast, when parted from the body, could heave and palpitate a considerable time, and with such a force as to raise the blankets and covering of a bed. But tho' the Septuagint interpreters render the word *Liver*, they do by no means favour, or in the least hint at this odd conceit of *Josephus*, of its moving and raising the bed-cloaths; which could only proceed from a desire in that writer of saying something strange and marvellous, to please and surprize his readers. But, 3<sup>dly</sup>, the most notorious piece of falshood and shameful complaisance to the heathen is, what he relates in the fourth book of his *Antiquities*. He knew the *Roman* emperors were very much addicted to the idols, very fond of that worship, and could not bear any thing should be said against it. In order therefore to make his court the better, and to recommend his religion to them, he does not scruple to say, that God in his law had forbidden the *Jews* to abuse their idols, and to destroy their temples, \* contrary to the

express words of the scripture, and the practice of God himself, and of pious and holy men, in the Old Testament. I say, contrary to God's word, who has laid this strict injunction upon the *Jews*: *Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee: but thou shalt destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves*; *Exod. xxxiv. 12, 13*. And this is what God himself practised towards the gods of *Egypt*, and of *Dagon* the image of the *Philistines*. Thus *Jacob* treated the images of *Laban* and the *Sichemites*, which he melted down, and buried under a tree: and, lastly, thus did *Moses* act with relation to the golden calf which the *Israelites* had set up, and worship'd in his absence; which he reduced to powder, gave it to the people to drink, and (as *St. Jerom* says) to be voided at the draught: not to mention some of the best of the *Jewish* princes, as *Hezekiah*, *Josiah*, and others, who shew'd their zeal to God in the beginning of their reigns, by destroying the idols, and demolishing the temples of the heathens. For this shameful compliance of *Josephus*, and his sacrificing truth at the expence of religion, a learned man † has pass'd this just censure upon him: "*Josephus*, " says he, was afraid, lest, if he " had acted the part of a true " historian, he should not have

\* Βλασφημῆσαι μὲν τοὺς Θεοὺς, ὡς πολλοὶ ἄλλοι νομίζουσιν, καὶ μισολογεῖν ἰσχυρὰ ἔθνικα, μὲν δ' ἀντιστοιχάσασθαι ἢ τινὶ Θεῷ κατεμύσσειν λαμβάνειν. *Joseph. Antiq. l. 4. cap. ult. & Lib. contra Apion. Vid. Seldeni Otia Theologica, l. 1. p. 9.*

† Veritus est *Josephus* ne si fidelem ageret *Historicum* amicus *Cæsaris* non esset. *Satian. Annal. Vet. Testam. Tom. 11. in Præf.*

“ been thought a friend to Cæ-  
 “ sar.” I could give you, Sir, several instances more of this nature in *Josephus*; as, 1<sup>st</sup>, His affirming, against the testimony of the scripture, the *Apocrypha*, and the *Talmud*, that God continued to answer by *Urim* and *Thummim* after the captivity of *Babylon*: 2<sup>dly</sup>, The account he gives of the Septuagint translation, which is censured and disproved by Dr. *Prideaux*; and, 3<sup>dly</sup>, What he relates of the sepulchre of *David*, which, he says, so many hundred years after his death, was plunder’d by *Herod* and *Hircanus* of an immense treasure; which the same learned man affirms to be a mere fiction, and the invention of this writer: and, I believe, the same may be said of *Alexander’s* march to *Jerusalem*, his pompous reception by the high-priest, his offering a sacrifice to God in the temple, and granting immunities and privileges to the *Jewish* nation; of all which there is not the least mention in *Arian*, *Plutarch*, *Justin*, *Q. Curtius*, nor by any writer that hath treated of the actions and expeditions of that great conqueror. You will perhaps say, Sir, that *Q. Curtius* is out of the question, because part of his works is lost: but this I beg leave to deny, since that part of his history is extant where these facts must naturally have come in; I mean, the time immediately after the famous siege of *Tyre*, which is described at large by *Q. Curtius*, and where *Josephus* has placed this very account

of *Alexander’s* journey to *Jerusalem*. Now, Sir, I do not say the silence of some writers is a full proof of the falshood of that which is recorded by others; but when the fact is very remarkable, and the silence general; when one writer only records it, and such an one as I have shewn *Josephus* to be; I believe you will allow, Sir, there may be grounds for suspicion. I have often wonder’d, that so judicious and exact a man as Dr. *Prideaux* hath taken no notice of this difficulty: for he gives his readers this piece of history without the least doubt and hesitation,\* upon the single authority of *Josephus*, and that of the very worst part of his works, the 11<sup>th</sup> book of his *Antiquities*, which he says abounds with many great and manifest mistakes; for in this book he varies from scripture, history, and common sense; which manifestly proves it to have been the least considered, and the worst digested, of all that he has wrote. I must own to you, Sir, I never read this passage in *Josephus* without great suspicion, and without thinking it was purely the invention of that writer to set off the honour of his country, to procure it credit among the heathens, and more particularly to recommend it to the *Greeks*, who, he knew, had a great veneration for that conqueror. The whole strefs, in short, of the matter seems to be here, whether it is probable, that all these writers should agree to suppress such remarkable facts out of spite and

\* Vid. *Prideaux*, Part I. l. 5. p. 302. 8vo.

hatred to the *Jews*; or whether it may not rather come from the mint of a vain and fabulous writer, concerned for the honour of his church and nation. I will not attempt to solve this problem, but will entirely leave it to your determination.

Since the beginning of my letter, I have heard that the late Mr. *Moyle* hath had the same thought, and endeavoured to disprove these facts in *Josephus*; and that he hath been answer'd by Mr. *Whiston*. As I have not these books by me, I will not enter farther into the dispute; and will refer you, Sir, to the authors

themselves. But what I have already produced will, I believe, suffice to shew, that *Josephus* hath by no means observed the great rule and maxim of an historian, *Nequid falsi dicere audeat*, &c. and that, tho' he may be esteem'd a pure and elegant writer, he can never pass for a true and faithful historian. I shall be glad to hear your opinion of these remarks: if they have the approbation of so complete a scholar, and so excellent a judge, it will be a satisfaction to,

S I R,

Your's, &c.

# ARTICLE LXI.

*Histoire d'Angleterre de Monsieur de Rapin Thoyras, continuë jusqu'à l'avancement de GEORGE Premiere a la Couronne. A la Haye, chez J. Van Duren et P. de Hondt. 1735. In 4to. Tome 12. p. 628.* That is, *The History of England by Monsieur de Rapin Thoyras, continued to the coming of King GEORGE I. to the Crown. Printed at the Hague, by J. Van Duren and P. de Hondt, 1735. In 4to. Tome XII. Pages 628.*

Nothing would be more unreasonable than to expect in a general history all the agreeableness which is to be found in a particular one, or to condemn it because we don't find it so: a piece which we chuse is of itself more curious and more engaging; the little one does right, is sure to please, because you represent the most brilliant objects: like to an architect, who, from an immense heap of materials, picks out nothing but what is most precious to build a separate apartment: it is not so with those who undertake

a general history; they have no choice of materials, they must use their marble as common stone; it is not possible, that all should be equally fine; it is sufficient that it be regular, and such as it ought to be.

The reign of queen *Anne* is surely the most glorious that ever *England* saw, and the most fertile in great events; yet the most embarrass'd in domestic intrigues. The author relates the one, and unravels the other; not only with neatness and precision, but also with judgment, and in an engaging



gaging manner, by the reflections with which they are attended.

The union of *Scotland* and *England* is a piece of the greatest *finest* in this reign: the victories gained over *France* in this reign cannot stand in competition with it; it is written with all possible care, and one may say it is a finish'd piece. "To consider matters under a distinct point of view, this union was advantageous to two kingdoms; the necessary consequence of it must be an everlasting peace between the two, and a greater force to resist their enemies; but to procure the peace, and this increase of power, it was not at all necessary that *Scotland* should be put in a worse condition than *Ireland*, which, altho' it was conquer'd, yet it preserved its parliament. It would have been sufficient, that this kingdom should have engaged, by an authentic and irrevocable act, never to acknowledge any other king than him who should reign in *England*. All they have added to this essential clause was from the purpose, which the *Scots* ought to have had only in view, and which only served to degrade *Scotland*, and to make it as dependent on *England*, as *Britany* is on *France*. The small number of the *Scots* members, who join'd to so great a multitude of the *English*, necessarily makes the *English* in the parliament of *Great-Britain*, where all is decided by plurality of voices, masters of all their enterprizes; this clause being repeated al-

most in every article, *Unless the parliament of Great-Britain finds it proper to make some change*. And does not this deliver up the rights, the customs, and the privileges of the *Scots* to the discretion of the *English*? This odious restriction to sixteen *Scots* peers, who are to enter into the *English* parliament, without excluding any *English* peer; the subjection of the admiralty of *Scotland* to the high admiral of *England*; the change of weights and measures; the subjection in the same manner of levying taxes; is it to ensure the peace, and the increase of power, or to mark out the distinct characters of the superiority and the sovereignty of *England*? In short, it is just, that they who sold their king should one day be punish'd themselves, by selling their sovereignty and their independance. We protest we have no ill intentions in proposing these reflections: we are also persuaded, and sincerely wish to persuade those who believe themselves injured, that it is more advantageous for them that matters should rest in the condition they are, than to undertake to change them, altho' they are sure of success.

What the author adds concerning the conduct of the *Scots* is no less solid, nor less finely modelled.

"Those that called themselves truly *Scots*, employ'd, on their side, all the credit, the address, the spirit, and the eloquence they had to hinder the treaty

" of

“ of the union. They discoursed  
 “ well upon the matter ; reason  
 “ and eloquence was surely on  
 “ their side : but their adversaries  
 “ did not trouble themselves  
 “ about answering them, but let  
 “ them talk on what they pleased,  
 “ and applauded them ; but the  
 “ number of votes were found to  
 “ be against their pretensions.

“ Over and above these essen-  
 “ tial means which were wanting  
 “ to them, added the author, it  
 “ appeared that their fear bound  
 “ and hinder’d them from taking  
 “ those vigorous resolutions, which  
 “ apparently would have changed  
 “ the scene, and hinder’d the ra-  
 “ pidity of the execution. They  
 “ ought to have begun, by ex-  
 “ cluding from their assemblies  
 “ their commissioners who had  
 “ stipulated the conditions of the  
 “ treaty : they had a right to  
 “ look upon them as judges and  
 “ parties, which was always  
 “ thought a sufficient reason to  
 “ refuse them : they ought not  
 “ to have suffer’d the votes of  
 “ the officers of the crown, all  
 “ named by the queen, to have  
 “ pass’d, because they alone sur-  
 “ pass’d the number of the com-  
 “ missioners, who were parties  
 “ of this princess. These were  
 “ a sort of preliminaries, which  
 “ they should have supported by  
 “ repeated protests, and by an  
 “ unanimous separation, in case  
 “ of refusal.

“ Not only courage and intre-  
 “ pidity was wanting on the op-  
 “ ponents side : that which was  
 “ in one sense more essential,  
 “ they wanted both concert and  
 “ well-form’d designs : the one  
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“ were for another king besides  
 “ *England’s* ; the others were on  
 “ the contrary mind : these were  
 “ for preserving the *Scots* parlia-  
 “ ment ; those on the contrary  
 “ for utterly abolishing it, upon  
 “ condition that the number of  
 “ the *Scots* deputies were not li-  
 “ mited as they were ; and that  
 “ all those who had a right to sit  
 “ in the *Scots* parliament might  
 “ also have a right to sit in the  
 “ *English* : the one thought of  
 “ nothing but religion ; the other  
 “ of nothing but commerce.

All this narrative is full of ac-  
 counts more remarkable than  
 those I am going to relate. There  
 is one thing that I cannot omit,  
 on occasion of the treaty of the  
 union, which was discuss’d in  
 parliament : there were then in  
*Edinburgh*, and other parts of *Scot-*  
*land*, popular insurrections. The  
 author’s words are these :

“ It was upon these slight  
 “ emotions that the *Scots* re-  
 “ sentments for the loss of  
 “ their sovereignty and inde-  
 “ pendance terminated. It was  
 “ happy for the court that they  
 “ had no chiefs capable of put-  
 “ ting these in execution. If  
 “ some of the *Scots* had taken  
 “ what measures they could, the  
 “ rest would have upon the first  
 “ movements follow’d, if they  
 “ had either been managed or  
 “ conducted ; and the least harm  
 “ that could have happen’d  
 “ would have been to abandon  
 “ the project, the execution of  
 “ which was so far advanced.  
 “ But the opposing lords would  
 “ employ no other weapons  
 “ against *England*, than reasons ;



“ to which no replies were given:  
 “ their reasons were heard, and  
 “ they were answer’d with silence. No doubt these lords  
 “ were brave, but they loved  
 “ peace, and regarded with great  
 “ reason the divisions of the people as a grand evil; for, surely,  
 “ it was not out of a scruple  
 “ of conscience that they stood  
 “ here. If ever a people had a  
 “ right to take up arms, the *Scots*  
 “ had upon this great event,  
 “ where they were upon the  
 “ point of continuing or ceasing  
 “ to be a particular people; that  
 “ is, where their sovereignty,  
 “ their laws, their rights, their  
 “ honour, and their religion, laid  
 “ at stake: a loss, the obedience  
 “ they ow’d to their sovereign  
 “ could not oblige them to submit to; much less what they  
 “ ow’d to a parliament, visibly  
 “ and notoriously suspected of  
 “ too little zeal to their country,  
 “ and of intelligence with those  
 “ who would make themselves  
 “ illustrious at the expence of  
 “ their degradation, and enfeebling them: they knew their  
 “ right, their strength, the circumstances which made them  
 “ more formidable than they  
 “ were in themselves: they contented themselves with complaints, and proofs in form.  
 “ They who are accustomed to  
 “ an arbitrary power will perhaps  
 “ say, that the *Scots* had reason;  
 “ but the *English*, who conducted  
 “ themselves by other principles,  
 “ could not, without condemning themselves, hinder themselves to declare, that the *Scots*  
 “ did more than their duty, and

“ in the like circumstances they  
 “ would not have been so tractable.

All *Europe* was astonish’d at the constancy of the *Spaniards* in supporting *Philip V.* which was done even by those who hitherto were so much in the interest of the house of *Austria*. The author gives the true reason in the following words.

“ The little discipline, says he,  
 “ which the troops observ’d, and  
 “ the excesses which they committed with regard to religion,  
 “ in despite of the complaints  
 “ and remonstrances of King  
 “ *Charles*, so far, that that prince  
 “ would not be seen in the army,  
 “ lest he should be witness of  
 “ their outrages, hurt his interest  
 “ more than battles that were  
 “ lost, because these things fixt  
 “ the *Spaniards* to *Philip’s* interest, and at the same time  
 “ they fought for him, they believed they were fighting in defence of their altars. I dare  
 “ say, and affirm, it was in this  
 “ point, that the *English* generals  
 “ were the most blameworthy.  
 “ There were troops enough in  
 “ *Spain* to have succeeded, if they  
 “ had not disoblig’d the *Spaniards*;  
 “ but having alienated their minds,  
 “ they wanted double and treble their number,  
 “ to conquer this difficulty.  
 “ Another method was observ’d  
 “ in *Flanders*, they manag’d their people,  
 “ and respected their religion; by which conduct,  
 “ they had nothing but their enemies’ armies to fight, whereas,  
 “ in *Spain*, they had as many  
 “ enemies as inhabitants.

Robert



*Robert Harley* in his time appear'd to be a complex of contradictions. Some prais'd him highly, others decry'd him as much. Observe what the author says of him, upon occasion of his advancement to the rank of a peer of *Great Britain*, under the titles of the earl of *Oxford* and *Mortimer*. "Such were the encomiums of this man, who was decry'd so much by the opposite party. I would believe, that they were highly provok'd; but I will also affirm, the earl of *Oxford* deserved well the praises of one party; nor can it enter into my head, that so great a body as the parliament of *Great Britain*, would undertake to extoll a man to the heavens, who had no such merit. On the other hand, I see certain facts, which supported these praises, and prov'd the justness of them. I see the great number of votes unanimous in favour of the earl, before his elevation, and their declaration, against the party which decry'd him. I see, on the contrary, that they accused him in vain for having been ambitious, vindictive, tricky; and that they charged him with the usual crimes, if I may so call them, of being a friend to *France*, to the *Pretender*, and to popery. I never had any acquaintance with this lord; but if it is true, as it is commonly said, he had more merit than the secretary of state *St. John* (since viscount *Bolingbroke*) his friend, I may easily judge, by compa-

ring them together. Few men had so delicate, so penetrating, and so just a spirit, as this last had; and if the earl of *Oxford* had more merit than him, I will venture to say, he was infinitely deserving." So far our author.

The most remarkable feats of this history concern wars and battles; of which I will bring you but two examples. The earl of *Galloway* was defeated at *Badajoz* by the marquis *de Bai*. The action is well described, and the reflections which accompany the description give us a great pleasure. "The horse, says our author, being broke and entirely dispers'd, the foot were in great danger of suffering the same fate; but some false steps of the enemy saved part of them. He permitted the victorious cavalry to follow those who fled too far, or at least he did not hinder them; and the greatest party was a league's distance from the field of battle when they ought to have charged the infantry. Moreover, he neglected to make his infantry advance in proportion as the horse push'd and put into disorder those who oppos'd them. Their failures gave the *Portuguese* foot an opportunity of ranging themselves into a square battalion. In this good form the foot march'd towards *Campo-Major*, in despite of the *Spanish* horse, which the marquis *de Bai* had caused to return from the pursuit, in despite of the cannon, which had made large openings. They

" pass'd the *Guadiana*, which by  
 " good fortune was almost dry ;  
 " and guarded themselves under  
 " the pallisadoes of *Campo-Major*.  
 " The earl of *Galloway* him-  
 " self, who was on the left, was  
 " separated from his army on the  
 " side of *Viguera*. This was the  
 " second battle he had hazarded,  
 " and it was also the second  
 " which he lost ; for having run  
 " into useless dangers, so much  
 " the less excusable was he on  
 " this second occasion, that the  
 " first experiment he made ought  
 " not to have encouraged him to  
 " have placed any confidence in  
 " the *Portuguese*. He says after-  
 " wards, for his justification, that  
 " the *Portuguese* were absolutely  
 " for fighting ; and that he ra-  
 " ther follow'd than led them  
 " on. This was his excuse ;  
 " but who is obliged to believe  
 " him ? He was ingenious in his  
 " profession, and was a brave  
 " man : he was the idol of the  
 " *French* protestants, and they  
 " rank'd him amongst the most  
 " famous generals of his time : at  
 " least we may say, he was not  
 " successful ; success does not al-  
 " ways attend knowledge, wit-  
 " nels king *William III.* How-  
 " ever, we may say, that success  
 " is reckoned amongst the chief  
 " qualities of a general.

The siege of *Lisle* of itself, and  
 by the circumstances that attended  
 it, was one of the greatest events  
 of this war, being so full of great  
 actions. The author gives us a  
 distinct idea of it, and his chief  
 business is to remark upon the  
 faults committed on both sides.

" Generally speaking, says he,

" the enterprize was look'd upon  
 " as rash. They who love to  
 " refine upon matters of con-  
 " duct would say, that the duke  
 " of *Burgundy*, but indeed the  
 " duke of *Vendosme*, in retiring  
 " towards *Ghent*, and leaving  
 " *Lisle* open, acted like a great  
 " captain ; in setting nets for his  
 " enemies, which they really suf-  
 " fer'd themselves to be caught  
 " in. This enterprize was dif-  
 " ficult in itself, but became  
 " doubly so by the slender prepa-  
 " rations they had made for it ;  
 " for they had neither cannon,  
 " nor mortars, nor powder ;  
 " they neither knew how to  
 " establish their magazines, nor  
 " had they wherewithal to do it :  
 " the *French* army was at hand  
 " to hinder the transport of the  
 " artillery and munitions of war,  
 " which they were obliged to  
 " bring from *Holland* to *Antwerp*  
 " by water, and from thence to  
 " *Lisle* by carriages. As to their  
 " provisions, they must have had  
 " them in *Brabant*, or in *Spanish*  
 " *Flanders* ; not being able to  
 " find enough in the castellany  
 " of *Lisle*, or on this side of *Ar-*  
 " *toise*.

" It may be added, that the sea-  
 " son begun to advance ; that this  
 " place, fortified by the famous  
 " *Vauban*, and well provided with  
 " troops and provision, would not  
 " surrender, tho' the trenches  
 " were open in some days ; and  
 " that it would be happy for them  
 " if they could take it in some  
 " months : that the extent of  
 " the circumvallations made it  
 " easy for them to receive suc-  
 " cours : that the *French* army,

" in

“ in despite of the check they  
 “ met with, was notwithstanding  
 “ ing ready, and also superior in  
 “ number to those who covered  
 “ the siege: in short, that the ill  
 “ season of the year, should it  
 “ have proved a little worse,  
 “ might alone have ruin’d their  
 “ army, tho’ the *French* should  
 “ have meddled no farther than  
 “ to put a stop to their provi-  
 “ sions.

“ These difficulties were real,  
 “ and they must have had men  
 “ so possess’d of their good for-  
 “ tune, or of the irresolution of  
 “ their enemies, as prince *Eugene*  
 “ and the duke of *Marlborough*  
 “ were, not to be affrighted at  
 “ the enterprize, and to give up  
 “ the cause.

Our author, after having de-  
 scribed the assault where the be-  
 sieged had all the advantage, he  
 adds, in the following words:  
 “ This attempt ought to have  
 “ made prince *Eugene* think that  
 “ the enterprize was more diffi-  
 “ cult than he at first believed;  
 “ and that his orders to attempt  
 “ a descent from the *Fosse*, and  
 “ to try to mount upon the  
 “ breach, to force the enemy to  
 “ beat the *chamade*, were at least  
 “ very ill judged. It may well  
 “ be thought he repented of the  
 “ action; at least it was reasonable  
 “ he should: for, altho’ the duke  
 “ of *Burgundy* had hinder’d his  
 “ army of observation to be at-  
 “ tack’d, there were other means  
 “ remained, altho’ the town was  
 “ taken, to shut up the enemy’s  
 “ army as in a bag, where they  
 “ were simply engaged. To speak  
 “ properly, they had no other

“ way to escape, but by the  
 “ causeway of *Menin*, *Ghent*,  
 “ *Bruges*, *Ypres*, and *Tournay*;  
 “ for all other ports were shut  
 “ up: they must have perish’d,  
 “ unless they had returned into  
 “ *Spanish Flanders*, which the  
 “ *French*, having an army of  
 “ above an hundred thousand  
 “ men, could easily have hin-  
 “ der’d.

He then proceeds to find fault  
 with the *French*. “ In short,  
 “ says he, the *French* army ap-  
 “ peared, the 10th of *September*,  
 “ in view of the retrenchments;  
 “ the enemy saw ’em on the 5th:  
 “ and altho’ one may say, it is  
 “ not possible to comprehend,  
 “ over all passages that have not  
 “ been disputed, how this army  
 “ should take up eight days to  
 “ appear in the plain which is be-  
 “ tween *Tournay* and *Lisle*, upon  
 “ the borders of the *Marque*.  
 “ The king of *France*, very atten-  
 “ tive to all that pass’d, and in-  
 “ form’d of the division amongst  
 “ the generals, obliged monsieur  
 “ *Chamillard*, his secretary of  
 “ war, to depart for the army,  
 “ that he might know from him  
 “ what was to be done on this  
 “ occasion, and to reconcile their  
 “ different councils. We cannot  
 “ deny, continues our author,  
 “ that *Lewis XIV.* was a great  
 “ prince; but as soon as he took  
 “ an affection to any one person,  
 “ he honoured him with his con-  
 “ fidence, and thought him ca-  
 “ pable of filling up every post  
 “ he charged him with; in which  
 “ we may say there was a sort  
 “ of pride, by persuading himself  
 “ that he could not mistake in  
 “ his



“ his choice. What gives occasion to the remarks, I judge to be unanswerable. *Chamillard* was an honest man ; but his employ was that of the law and the innocent game of billiards, in both which he excell'd ; but was quite ignorant of the affairs of war. However, this was the man chosen out to decide so momentous an affair, on which the fate of *France* depended.

“ The duke of *Burgundy* having pass'd the *Marque*, put his army into battle-array. The duke of *Vendosme* would have attack'd the allies army next morning at break of day : the duke of *Burgundy* oppos'd it. The 12th, and two days following, pass'd over, or rather were lost ; whether it was to reconnoitre the entrenchments, or to hold councils of war ; or whether, in short, the duke of *Vendosme* could find no one to take his part against the duke of *Burgundy*. The 15th, the army decamp'd, under pretence that it would be more easy to cut off the provisions than to fight. The soldiery were enraged at the ill management of a prince, who was one day to be their master : they would willingly have revenged themselves upon the marquis *d'O, de Gamachos*, and other such warriors, whom they believed to be the occasion of the prince's irresolution, and of his opposition to the counsels of the duke of *Vendosme*, who, they used to say, had gained more battles than the other had ever seen.

The finest strokes of this history are when he speaks of war. The thoughts of peace, which queen *Anne* undertook, particularly after the death of the emperor *Joseph*, alarm'd all her allies. Our author, upon this occasion, examines into the true interest of *England*, and makes us sensible of the injustice of their complaints, particularly those of the Court of *Vienna* and *Barcelona*. “ She believ'd, says our author, she had done too much for the emperor, and it was said, that the suppos'd honour of the alliance had drain'd *England* of men and money ? that it was an alliance on which she could not depend, and which would last no longer than fear and necessity continued. On the other hand, it was an alliance that could easily be dissolved, which was so disproportionable with regard to the profit and the expences, that it was not conceivable how they even enter'd into it, or could support it so long. These reflections, adds he, were not the only one's that were made in *England*, observe their language in that country.

“ Nature has separated us from all other states, upon which account we have no occasion to enter into their quarrels. The riches of *Great-Britain*, and the valour of its inhabitants, so universally known, will always procure it respect, and make it greatly regarded. Thus is it very easy for *England* to be always at peace. She finds her security in the division of other states ; and if you don't attack

“ her

" her particularly, or put a stop  
 " to her commerce, she forgets  
 " her interest if she takes part  
 " with any other state. There  
 " is no one state which does not  
 " fear to have it their enemy, and  
 " which does not grant her all  
 " the advantages she can reason-  
 " ably expect. Is a people wise,  
 " and does it make use of its li-  
 " berty as it ought, when by  
 " animosities and terrors, as un-  
 " just as they are ill-grounded,  
 " when it makes a false merit of  
 " a false glory of renouncing  
 " peace, the most solid, and the  
 " most agreeable, of all things  
 " which heaven can bestow up-  
 " on earth, to revenge super-  
 " annuated quarrels, and guard  
 " themselves against dangers,  
 " which war only could draw  
 " upon them. I will except the  
 " *United Provinces* out of the  
 " number of their indifferences.  
 " If their preservation is not ab-  
 " solutely necessary to the secu-  
 " rity of *England*, it is however  
 " extremely useful; wherefore  
 " *England* ought always to take  
 " part with *Holland* against any  
 " party that would offer to wea-  
 " ken it.

" I should have finished the ex-  
 " tract, if it were not to justify the  
 " reign of queen *Anne*, with regard  
 " to the duke of *Marlborough*; it  
 " appears so finished a piece, that  
 " we cannot help transcribing it;  
 " and there is no doubt, but the  
 " readers will be of the same senti-  
 " ments.

" The fall of the hero of  
 " *England*, although foreseen,  
 " made a great noise, and more

" yet among the allies than in  
 " *England*; they soon knew that  
 " the hopes of the continuance  
 " of the war would be at an  
 " end. To this very day some  
 " regret his fall, and highly blame  
 " those who were the occasion  
 " of it; and some look upon it  
 " as the greatest spot in her reign.  
 " Some writers have employed  
 " their pens on this general under  
 " disgrace, that I think it not  
 " amiss to subjoin the sovereigns  
 " own answer. If there are a-  
 " gainst me who think sovereigns  
 " always in the wrong, I shall  
 " however be regarded by those  
 " who have more just and fa-  
 " vourable ideas.

" The duke of *Marlborough*  
 " had done honour to his coun-  
 " try, but he was well recom-  
 " pensed for it. Never did sub-  
 " ject arrive at that high point of  
 " favour as he did: The queen  
 " heaped riches and honours upon  
 " him; the state was at his dis-  
 " posal, for all the great employ-  
 " ments were in his or his crea-  
 " tures hands. Let me ask one  
 " question. Was the queen ob-  
 " liged to *Churchill* for his ser-  
 " vices, or was it *Churchill* that  
 " owed the queen his acknow-  
 " ledgments? To speak precise-  
 " ly, a sovereign owes no ac-  
 " knowledgments to a subject, he  
 " did no more than his duty,  
 " when he acquitted himself well  
 " of the commands she gave him.  
 " It was only by her means,  
 " that he could acknowledge the  
 " obligation he had for the choice  
 " she had made of placing him  
 " above his equals, and perhaps,  
 " even

“ even above those who were superior to him in merit and sincerity.

“ The most provoked parties of the duke of *Marlborough* could not deny, that his reputation in cases of war, though pretty good, yet was not so extraordinary, as that the queen should have placed him at the head of her armies, preferably to so many other lords as had distinguished themselves under the late king. On the contrary, his successes much surpassed what was expected of him. A gentleman of a great deal of spirit, who wrote in a burlesque and allegorical stile the history of the times, of which we speak, says, if the practice and use of the tongue, which this general failed much in, were supplied with good clerks, with which he filled his study-place, such among others were the lord *Cadogan*. Let us suppose, however, that the duty of acknowledgment were mutual between the queen and the subject, let us see who best fulfilled it.

“ How covetous soever the duke of *Marlborough* was of riches and honours, it may be said, his desires ought to be satisfied; He knew himself to be the richest lord in *England*, that is, the most rich individual in *Europe*; and if he did not owe all these riches immediately to the liberality of the queen, at least they were owing to the consideration she had for him, and to the situation she had placed him in. The greatest part of the peers were

“ too happy if they could bend their knees before him, and to have the liberty of offering incense at his return from the Campaigns. *George Lockheart*, who wrote the history of the union of *Scotland* and *England*, reports with indignation, that he has seen the greatest lords of *Scotland* attend a long time in the anti-chambers, yet were received with the same coldness as a lord would receive a *Valet de Chambre*. In one word, charges, dignities, and titles, were bestowed prodigally upon him and his family. Were it true, that never a subject did such services in the nation, it was also very true, that never a subject was recompenced in so glorious a manner; and, if I may use the term, in a more lucrative manner, if his great feats were a sort of chain that fixed those to him that received them, and imposed a sort of necessity upon them, to pay to his benefactress all the complaisance and submission which are not crimes, you shall find the laurels of this general, always victorious, will be much withered; and at the same time that his exploits merit our esteem, his conduct towards his mistress merits our indignation. His regard towards the emperor was greater than that towards his queen: If he would justify an excessive imprudence, we may say he had the greatness of soul to sacrifice the favour of his sovereign to the engagements he had with the emperor. But  
“ was



“ was the regard very pure? Let  
 “ us suppose it, for it is not at  
 “ all necessary to have made this  
 “ a subject of reproach. That  
 “ which we are assured of, is, that  
 “ the queen having changed her  
 “ disposition for the Whigs, he  
 “ however continued to be of  
 “ their party. When his mistress  
 “ and benefactress shewed her in-  
 “ clination for peace, he declared  
 “ himself more openly than ever  
 “ for war; he held nightly con-  
 “ ferences with the count of Ga-  
 “ lache; he took measures to put  
 “ a stop and to break off the  
 “ negotiations. If in all this we  
 “ can perceive any generosity,  
 “ any nobleness of sentiments or  
 “ of probity, it were well; in  
 “ lieu of which, we perceive in-  
 “ gratitude, rashness and disobe-  
 “ dience, which every common  
 “ person saw through, we may  
 “ at least say, if the queen had  
 “ a right to humble and abase a  
 “ subject who had the assurance  
 “ to struggle against her, and to  
 “ oppose formally and openly the  
 “ execution of her will and plea-  
 “ sure, which cannot be approved  
 “ of, but which had nothing  
 “ criminal in it, but that he was  
 “ a person who owed his all to  
 “ her; one would think, that he  
 “ would be obliged not to resist  
 “ her, especially with noise and  
 “ bustle, storming and shewing

That which the author says of  
 the peace of *Utrecht*, is written  
 with the same force and clearness.  
 “ We must not judge of these  
 “ treaties, says he, by the preli-  
 “ minaries of 1709. The change  
 “ of circumstance made them em-  
 “ brace other sentiments, with-

“ out abandoning the project of  
 “ hindering *France* and the house  
 “ of *Bourbon* from becoming too  
 “ powerful. They also thought  
 “ of setting boundaries to other  
 “ states, where sovereigns seemed  
 “ to have too extensive views:  
 “ It is then under this double  
 “ point of view, that we must  
 “ examine their treaties, to be-  
 “ gin from *England*; *Gibraltar*  
 “ and *Port-Mahon* secured the  
 “ commerce in the *Mediterr-*  
 “ *anean*, and the demolish-  
 “ ing of *Dunkirk* that of the  
 “ channel. The towns and isles  
 “ granted in *America* deserve our  
 “ attention; the treaty of the *Ne-*  
 “ *groes*, which hung so long in  
 “ the wind, was advantageous  
 “ also: The commerce of *Cadiz*  
 “ and of the *Indies* being facili-  
 “ tated and secured, was it not  
 “ of great use to *England*? Was  
 “ it indifferent that *France* ac-  
 “ knowledged the succession es-  
 “ tablished by new laws; that  
 “ she ceased to protect; nay, that  
 “ she even engaged to abandon  
 “ the person, who had a right  
 “ to their dominions? But these  
 “ advantages were nothing in  
 “ comparison of the signal and  
 “ continual victories of the *Eng-*  
 “ *lish*; the success of their victo-  
 “ ries went amongst the allies;  
 “ *England* had the least part of  
 “ the conquest, which must be  
 “ referred either to its situation  
 “ or generosity. But they fa-  
 “ voured *France* so much, that a  
 “ peace was procured for her as  
 “ advantageous as if she had  
 “ been but half conquered. This  
 “ was to be done, in order to  
 “ hinder the great increase of the  
 “ rivals

“ rivals of the commerce of *Great Britain*. To oblige a sovereign to demolish an useful town, is almost as humbling as to demand a tribute of him: the ruins of this demolish’d place are a lasting monument of this servitude. The duke of *Savoy* was the person that *Louis XIV.* ought to have had the greatest aversion for; and yet, by this treaty, he was obliged to grant him the greatest advantages.

“ They who have treated this peace, as it is honourable to the crown of *England*, make use of terms whose sense they understand not. The queen made this peace like a sovereign: she imposed upon the conquerors and the conquered such conditions as she thought necessary to make the peace lasting; and which she obliged them all to accept of: she did more, she favoured those that readily came into her measures, and made those repent who resisted her. If it is a shameful thing to take upon one the destiny of all *Europe*, I don’t know what is glorious: ’tis therefore madness in those who treat the most glorious action as the most shameful.

We cannot better finish this extract than by giving the character of queen *Anne*, with which

he ends this history. “ If we contest, says our author, the qualities that concur to make a great queen, we cannot deny but she had the greatest party; by the importance of the events she surpass’d all reigns of her predecessors: *Germany* deliver’d; the Imperial crown settled upon the head of her ally; *Flanders* conquer’d, a country famous for the number of its towns; a proud conqueror humbled, and prostrate at her feet, reduced to the condition of asking favour, and of submitting to the conditions she imposed upon him; *Europe* pacified; triumphant avarice reduced to just limits; the allies conquer’d from the time she ceas’d to support them with her victorious arms; *Scotland* united, and making but one kingdom with *England*. These are indelible marks of her grandeur; the glory of which neither envy, jealousy, or ill-nature can diminish: she wanted nothing but subjects more united, and more capable of feeling the tenderness and sincerity of her love.

This author seems to have chang’d sides whilst he speaks of the reign of queen *Anne*; and some parts of it partake too much of satire.

## ARTICLE LXII.

## Of FRACTIONS Vulgar and Decimal.

Proper }  $\frac{1}{2}$   
Simple }  $\frac{1}{4}$

Improper —  $1\frac{1}{2}$

Compound  $\frac{1}{3}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $\frac{1}{5}$ .

$$\frac{1}{3} \text{ of } \frac{1}{4} \text{ of } \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1 \times 2}{3 \times 4} = \frac{2}{12} \text{ and } \frac{3 \times 2}{12 \times 5} = \frac{6}{60}$$

*Set. 2.* To bring mixed numbers into fractions, and *vice versa*;  $\times$  integers with the denominator, and to their product add the numerator

$$9\frac{4}{5} = 9 \times 5 = 45, \text{ then 'tis } 49\frac{4}{5}.$$

*Set. 3. N. B.* To have the value of a fraction divide the numerators of any improper fraction by its denominator, *v. g.*

$$\frac{2 \times 2}{3 \times 2} = \frac{4}{6} \text{ which is equivalent to } \frac{2}{3}.$$

*Set. 4.* To abbreviate fractions; divide the greater by the less, till it can be done no more, and

$$\frac{14}{21} \div 7 = \frac{2}{3}, \quad \frac{56}{14} \div 2 = \frac{28}{7} = \frac{14}{1} \text{ by } 7 = \frac{2}{3}.$$

$\times$  or divide by such a number as exhausts both.

*Addition.*

Compound, *v. §. 1.*

Denominators vary, *v. §. 3.* add all the numerators, subscribe the common denominator, *v. g.*

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{6}{60} + \frac{24}{60} + \frac{45}{60} = \frac{75}{60}$$

*Subtraction.*

Subtract one numerator from the other, and write down the common denominator, *v. g.*

$\frac{2}{9}$  from  $\frac{3}{9}$ , *v. §. 3.*

$$\frac{27}{63} - \frac{14}{63} = \frac{13}{63} \text{ for } 27 - 14 = 13.$$

*Set. 1.* Compound fractions are reduced to simple; by  $\times$  all the numerators together, and the denominators together also, *v. g.*

$$\frac{37}{7} = 5; \text{ for } 37 \div 7 = 5.$$

*Set. 3. N. B.* Whole numbers set fraction-wise; place 1 under, *v. g.*

$$45 \text{ placed fraction-wise is } \frac{45}{1}.$$

*Set. 3.* To change fractions into one denomination;  $\times$  numerator into numerator; and denominators into denominators, *v. g.*

then it is known whether it be prime (exhaustible) or not, *v. g.*

*Multiplication.*

$\times$  numerators and denominators together, *v. g.*

$$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{7} = \frac{2 \times 3}{3 \times 7} = \frac{6}{21}$$

Compound, by *s. 1.*

Improper, by *s. 2. §. 2.*

Abbreviate, by *s. 4.*

*Division.*

$\times$  the numerator of the dividend into the numerator of the divisor, and the other numerator and denominator together for a new denominator, *v. g.*

$$\frac{6}{35} \times \frac{36}{73} = \frac{6 \times 36}{35 \times 73} = \frac{216}{2555}$$

$$\frac{42}{105} = \frac{2}{5} \text{ by } s. 4.$$

H h h 2

Decimal



*Decimal Fractions.*

$$75 = \frac{75}{10}; .56 = \frac{56}{100}; .056 = \frac{56}{1000}$$

$$77 = \frac{77}{10}; .05 = \frac{5}{100}; .005 = \frac{5}{1000} \text{ \&c.}$$

} o's prefixed lessen the value.

*Reduction of Decimals, viz.*

Reduction of fractions into decimals.

*N. B.* Add cyphers at pleasure to the numerator, and divide by the denominator, *v. g.*

$$\frac{3}{4} = 3.00 (=,75 \text{ or } \frac{3}{4} = 3,0000 (=,75000$$

$$\text{or } \frac{4}{7} = 4,000,300,0000 (=,5714284714$$

÷ 7

*Addition.*

Does in common addition, but so many figures as are before a comma, so many must there be before a comma in the sum added, *v. g.*

$$\begin{array}{r} 25,854 \\ 34,578 \\ 9,076 \\ 13,907 \\ \hline 83,415 \end{array}$$

} here are two only.

*Subtraction.*

Do as in common subtraction; only so many figures as precede a comma, so many must there be before one in the remainder, *v. g.*

$$\begin{array}{r} 74,284 \\ 45,375 \\ \hline 28,909 \end{array}$$

} here are two only.

*Multiplication.*

Do as in common multiplication, only so many figures must precede a comma, as there are in both factors in the remainder, *v. g.*

$$\begin{array}{r} 32,12 \\ 24,3 \\ \hline 96,36 \\ 12848 \\ 6424 \\ \hline 780,56 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,024 \\ 2,23 \\ \hline 9072 \\ 6048 \\ 048 \\ \hline 6,74352 \end{array}$$

*N. B.* 3 factors in the 1st, 5 factors in the second, *fc.*

*Division.*

Do as in common division, but the places in the divisor and quoti-

ent must be equal in number to those in the dividend, *v. g.*

$$294 \overline{) 73,5} \text{ to } \frac{2}{4}, 0 = 15; \text{ then it is } 73,5$$

for 73,5 is the quotient as 4 is the divisor, and these are equal to four figures; and 294,0 are also four figures; the comma must be put before the fractional part only.

*A decimal Table of 11.*

$$s. = 0,05; d. 1 = 0,0041667; q. 1 = 0,001041667.$$

*An example of evolution by decimal arithmetic.*

$$aa + 2ee + ee = N$$

*N. B.* : 2  $a^2$  and  $ee = b$ . then

$$N - a^2 \frac{+b}{2a} = \sqrt{?} \text{ N. or}$$

$$N - a^2 \frac{+b}{2a} + 1 = \sqrt{?} \text{ N. now}$$

$$1st. N - a^2 \frac{+b}{2a} \text{ or } \frac{b}{2a+1} = ?$$

$$2d. N - a^2 \frac{+b}{2a} \text{ or } \frac{b}{2a+1} = ?$$

$$5 - (2 \times 2) = 4 + \frac{1}{4} = 1 + \frac{1}{4} \text{ or } \frac{5}{4}$$

$$5 - (2 \times 2) = 4 + \frac{10}{4} = 1 + \frac{10}{4} \text{ or } 1 + \frac{10}{5}$$

Now we have no more ado, than to subtract by the common rule, and then to reduce by division, as often as you please.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE LXIII.

Continuation of TOURNEFORT's History of Plants.

*Helidonium majus vulgare*, the greater celandine. It is bitter, acid, and burning, especially the root, which yields more orange-colour'd juice than the other parts of the plant. It gives but a faint red colour to the blue paper, and smells like rotten eggs, which makes me believe that its juice is *phageadenic*. By *analysis* it yields a good deal of salt, both fix'd and volatile, but it is involved in a great deal of sulphur and earth. This plant is very aperitive, and good in the dropsy, jaundice and green-sickness.

*Chenopodium fatidum, atriplex fatida*, stinking orache. This plant by *analysis* affords little or nothing but a substance loaded with salts. It yields after all a great deal of concrete, volatile, and very lixivial fixt salt, a pretty deal of sulphur and earth. The tincture of this plant, drawn with spirit of wine, is good for the vapours.

*Cichorium sylvestre*, wild succory. Its leaves and roots are full of milk, very bitter, and give a faint red colour to the blue paper: the leaves stain it a little more: they are less bitter, and of a glutinous taste; the salt which is in the succory does not seem to differ from natural salt in the earth; but it is joined with a considerable quantity of sulphur and terrestrial parts. By *analysis* it yields a great deal of oil and earth, some acid liquors, a little urinous spirit,

and some concreted volatile salt. The dandelion yields much the same principles; but it affords no concreted volatile salt, nevertheless their virtues are much alike. The roots and leaves are *aperitive*, *diuretic* and cooling; and cool only by removing the too-long obstructed humors in the bowels.

*Cicuta major, hemlock*. It has an herby, saltish taste; smells of *fatid* oil, and gives a very deep tincture of red to the blue paper, which makes us conjecture that it contains a salt resembling the *sal ammoniac*, involved by a great deal of oil and earth; pretty near the same principles are found in *apium*. Its leaves are very lenifying and resolvent; being boiled in milk, they are applied with good success to the piles, and the parts affected with the gout.

*Cynoglossum vulgare*, bound's tongue. It stinks like a dog-kennel. The bark of its root is a little bitter, saltish, stiptic and glutinous; it gives a pretty deep red colour to the blue paper; it is likely that the *sal ammoniac*, which is naturally in the salt of the earth, predominates in this plant, where it is temper'd with a great deal of *flegm*, earth and *fatid* oil. When analys'd it gives strong indications of an acrid salt and sulphur: it is proper to stop all sorts of defluxions, and to correct acrid humours. The leaves are vulnerary and deterfive.

*Equisetum*,

*Equisetum, cauda equina, Horse-tail.* It has an herby, saltish taste; it is deterfive, and gives hardly any tincture of red to the blue paper: its salt seems to resemble that of coral; but it is mixed with a little *sal ammoniac* and sulphur: by *analysis* it affords several acid liquors, a little oil, a great deal of earth, no concreted volatile salt, but a little urinous spirit: its fixt salt does not easily dissolve in the air, neither does it give an orange colour to the solution of corrosive sublimate. All authors agree that this plant is very vulnerary and astringent. Its decoction is prescribed for spitting of blood, the immoderate flux of the piles, *menfes*, and all sorts of *hæmorrhages*.

*Erica vulgaris, common heath or ling.* *Rondeletius* used the oil of its flowers for tetters with great success; and a fomentation of the flowers is said to ease the gout.

*Eruca tennifolia, wild rocket.* This plant is of a taste, very acrid and burning, mixed with a little bitterness; it gives a pretty red tincture to blue paper; and its smell resembles that of foetid oils rectified over quick-lime; hence it contains a great deal of *sal ammoniac* and foetid oil; it is therefore aperitive, incisive, and diuretic; and boil'd with sugar is good in the chin-cough.

*Eryngium campestre, or common eringe.* It contains a volatile salt in a small quantity, and therefore is moderately good in phlegmatic cases.

*Eupatorium cannabinum, or hemp agrimony.* Two ounces of the juice of the leaves of the plant,

or a dram of its extract made into ptisan, is good in obstructions after intermitting fevers, in dropsies, green-sickness, itch, and other cutaneous diseases. Its roots purge considerably upwards and downwards.

*Euphrasia officinarum, eye-bright.* It gently opens obstructions, strengthens and restores the sight.

*Filipendula vulgaris, common dropwort.* It is styptick, and tastes something like allum. Several physicians recommend it for the epilepsy, for the bloody-flux, and for the *fluor albus*.

*Frangula, or the blackberry bearing elder.* The bark purges and vomits; and some affirm, that the middle bark, infused in vinegar, is an infallible remedy for the itch, and other cutaneous disorders.

*Fraxinus excelsior, or the common ash-tree.* It has a neutral salt, and is said to be good in the small pox and measles; its juice dropping out of one side, whilst you set fire to the other end, is said to be good in deafness; the bark of the root is said to be purgative.

*Fumaria, or fumitory.* By *analysis*, it contains volatile and lixivial salt, with an oil. It is good to remove obstructions for diseases of the skin for hypocondriacism, for the cachexy and dropsy. Thus has this gentleman recommended the old methods, notwithstanding his chymical *analysis*.

*Galeopifis procereor, hedge-nettles.* It contains a salt like that of the earth; it has a foetid smell; it is as good as a vulnerary for burns and wounds in the tendinous parts.



*arts.* In the country its leaves and flowers are used in infusion for nephritic colicks, scrophulous humors, and the pleurisy. Its extract will keep all winter.

*Gallium album vulgare*, or *white ladies bedstraw*. It is used for the epilepsy, for the gout, to open obstructions. Its decoction is good for the dry scab of children to bathe with.

*Geranium sanguineum seu haidensides*, or *bloody cranes-bill*. It has an aluminous taste, and therefore it is said to be vulnerary.

*Geranium robertianum*, or *herb robert*. By *analysis* it yields a good deal of acid, therefore is it astringent, vulnerary, and stops hemorrhages.

*Gramen caninum*, or *dogs grass*. By chemistry we get acids, fix'd salts, and some oil. They act then like salt of coral, kill worms, and open obstructions gently.

*Gratiola centauroides*. It affords a great deal of oil, acid, and earth. It purges upward and downwards.

*Heliotropium majus*, or *larger blue flower*. It gives a deep red to blue paper; the juice of the plants makes warts fall off, and takes away the ringworm, and stops spreading ulcers.

*Herba Paris*, or *Herb Paris*. The powder of its root cures the colick; applied as a cataplasm, externally takes off inflammations.

*Herniaria Glabra*, or *rupturewort*. It is acrid and saltish, and gives a faint red to blue paper. Hence does it contain a neutral salt. The juice given internally, and a cataplasm applied externally

cures ruptures; it is also used internally as a diuretic.

*Hesperis allium redolens*, *jack by the hedge*. It contains a mix'd salt like *sal ammoniac*; it is diuretic; its seed is good in vapours, and the leaves are affirmed to cure carcinomatous ulcers.

*Hyoscyamus vulgaris*, *henbane*. It has a salt like *sal armoniac*. It affords by chymical *analysis*, volatile salt, and much oil; this is truly the characteristic of an *opiate*; its seed is valued for spitting of blood, its juice cures the pain of the ears, and is anodyne in cataplasms, and gout. A fomentation of the leaves gives passage to the milk, and so does the oil; the smoak of it cures chilblains.

*Hypericon vulgare*, *St John's wort*. Its leaves are styptick and saltish, with a turpentine flavour; it is then vulnerary, good in spittings of blood; some say, it is good in madness or melancholy without a fever; its decoction cures worms, and is diuretic; it is antinephritic.

*Jacea nigra pratensis latifolia*, *knapweed*. It is good in the thrush; it contains a substance loaded with volatile salt.

*Jacobaea vulgaris*, *ragwort*. Its leaves are bitter, aromatic and astringent; give a faint red to blue paper; it contains oil, a salt of earth, and earth; it is vulnerary and deterfive; an ointment is made of it at *Paris*, good for the *St. Anthony's fire*.

*Jacobaea foliis ferulaceis*. It is smoaked like tobacco for asthma's, and it is used as tea for that purpose.

*Imperatoria pratensis*, wild angelica. 'Tis sudorific with vinegar of squills.

*Juniperus vulgaris*, juniper-tree. It contains acids, fix'd salts, and a good deal of oil; it dissipates wind, is sudorific, antihysterical, and opens obstructions; also diuretic; it is good in the gout and dropsy; its steams, when burnt, are good against pestilential air.

*Lapathum folio acuto*, sharp-pointed dock. It contains acids; 'tis good in the itch, and other diseases of the skin, in an ointment: the sharp-pointed dock, with plain leaves, is esteem'd to be antiscorbutic, good in tetter and rheumatism; it is very styptic and bitter.

*Lappa major*, great burdock. Its leaves are bitter; it is diuretic, sudorific, pectoral, hysterical, vulnerary, febrifuge; the decoction is good in the venereal disease; I must add, that I knew one cured of venereal pains by its decoction: it is antiarthritic, good against the stone.

*Lepidium latifolium*, pepper-wort. It is acid and aromatic; 'tis antiscorbutic, stomachic, antipochondriac.

*Leucanthemum vulgare*, the great daisy. It yields by analysis fix'd salts and acid; and is therefore like tartar vitriolated; 'tis detensive and aperient.

*Lucium luteum vulgare*, wall-flower. It is bitter and saltish, and affords volatile salts, oil, and earth; 'tis aperient, good for the green-sickness, and the palsy, as also the rheumatism.

*Ligustrum*, privet. 'Tis astringent and bitter, affords acids, oil,

and an aluminous salt; it dries ulcers, cures scalds, and hæmorrhages.

*Lithium convallium album*, is good in the palsy, epilepsy, vertigo; its flowers afford a volatile salt and oil.

*Linaria vulgaris*, common yellow toad-flax. Applied outwardly, 'tis resolvent and lenitive, assuages the pain of the cancer; it resolves then and relaxes; its ointment is good in hæmorrhoids, made with the leaves boil'd in oil, with woodlice and bulles, being first infus'd, strain; add the yolk of a hard egg, and as much wax as to give it a consistence; 'tis good also in cancers and St. Anthony's fire: it contains a good deal of oil and salt of earth.

*Lithospermum majus*, gramwell. It is astringent and glutinous; it contains much oil, and some volatile and earth; it is diuretic in emulsions.

*Lupulus semina*, female hops. 'Tis bitter; it gives out volatile salt and oil, good in hypochondriacism, emmenagogue, and sudorific.

*Lyctails hirsutis*, soap-wort. It is bitter; the decoction cures the itch; 'tis resolvent and aperient.

*Marrubium album*, white hen-bound. 'Tis bitter, contains sulphur, phlegm, and earth; 'tis very aperient; good in asthma's and jaundice, and stubborn coughs; its syrup is used as a pectoral.

*Melilotus*, melilot. It affords oil, earth, urinous spirit, and salt; 'tis aperient, resolvent, and lenifying; good in the colick, carminative in glysters, and a well-known plaister is made from it.

*Melissa*,



*Melissa, balm.* Affords an aromatic water, which is good for suppression of urine, and glisters.

*Mentha, mint.* Is aromatic, stomachic, and diuretic.

*Menyanthis, or trifolium palustre, buckbean.* It gives out acid, volatile salt, oil and earth. It is famous in the scurvy, gout, cachexy, and dropsy.

*Mercurialis testiculata, French mercury.* It is nitrous, contains volatile salt, oil and earth; it is purgative, or laxative, and aperient; it is used in laxative glisters.

*Millefolium vulgare, yarrow.* It affords acid and earth; it is vulnerary and astringent, stops bleedings.

*Nigella arvensis cornuta.* The seed of this plant is used to dissolve viscous matter in catarrhs, snuff'd up the nose infused in white wine. They are good in colicks, they expectorate, they are diuretic, and provoke the menses.

*Nummularia major or moneywort.* It is stiptic and aluminous, reddens the blue paper; it is therefore astringent and vulnerary in ulcers of the lungs, in the dysentery, loss of blood, and *fluor albus*, and is good for ruptures in children.

*Nymphaea alba major, white-water lilly.* It yields a great deal of acid and oil; it is used in cooling ptisans for the heat of urine, or the inflammation of the kidneys, or the bladder.

*Origanum vulgare, wild marjoram.* It is acrid and aromatic, diuretic, diaphoretic, and expectorates in asthma's.

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*Papaver erraticum.* It is glutinous, and the flowers are used as an opiate in syrup, against sharp rheums and dry coughs, as also in tea for the same purpose.

*Parietaria, or pellitory of the wall.* It is said to contain nitre, but by *analysis* it yields much oil and fix'd salt, several acid and acrid liquors; it lenifies, resolves, and stops tetter and spreading ulcers. Its juice is good against the pain of the ear, bruised with water cresses, and made into a cataplasm with wine, is used for suppression of urine, or in cases of ruptures; it is now used in glisters and semicupia.

*Pantaphylloides, wild tanfy.* It is aluminous and styptic, therefore is it astringent, vulnerary, and deterfive, good in fluxes of any kind, and for tanning of the face.

*Anguillaria, or persicaria urens, water-pepper.* It is very acrid and burning, affords acid, oil, earth, and volatile salt. It is very deterfive and vulnerary, and used in glisters, for the dysentery and tenesimus, but we think it not safe to give it internally.

*Pervinca vulgaris, or pereginkle.* It is vulnerary, astringent, and febrifugous, and has an aluminous salt.

*Pilosella major umossecar.* This plant is bitter, affords acid liquors, oil, earth, and a urinous spirit. It is vulnerary and deterfive; it is said to be specifick for the rupture.

*Pimpinella sanguis-forba major, great burnet.* When analys'd, it affords acid liquors; it is therefore deterfive, vulnerary, diuretic, diaphoretic,



phoretic, and good to establish the elasticity of fibres; it is commonly eat as a sallade.

*Plantago latifolia*. It contains astringent parts, therefore it is vulnerary and febrifugous, stops fluxes of any kind.

*Polygonatum latifolium*, or *solomon's seal*. It yields acid and fix'd salt, as also oil and earth; it is glutinous, cures ruptures, &c.

*Polypodium vulgare*, or *polypody*. It yields an acid and urinous spirit, a great deal of oil, and some earth; it is good for expectoration.

*Primula veris odorata*, *cowslips*. They afford acid, urinous spirit, oil and earth, good in obstructions, apoplexies and palsies.

*Prunus sylvestris*, or *the sloe-tree*. The fruit is aluminous, in *Alsace* they dry the sloes in an oven, and mix it with their musk to give it an astringent taste. The *succus acaciæ germanica* is very astringent, and used in fluxes.

*Pulegium latifolium*, *pennyroyal*. It is bitter, acrid and aromatic. Hence is it hysteric, aperitive, and good in viscous blood. It is commended in wine, for the suppression of the *menfes*, *fluor albus*. Its decoction is good in asthmatic cases and hoarseness.

*Phyllium majus erectum*, *seawort*. It affords oil, earth, urinous spirit, and acid liquors; it has a purgative virtue, in gargles it lenifies, and smooths inflammations of the mouth or eyes.

*Pulmonaria flore rubro*, *blue-blo's cowslips*. It is used in decoctions to soften the humors of the lungs.

*Pulsatilla*, or *parque-flower*. It

is vastly acrid; the smell of it rubbed betwixt the fingers, makes the nose twinge smartly. It might be used in lethargies, but generally is used in wounds of horses; it is pretty well known, that if the cattle eat of it, it raises an inflammation in their stomach, and causes bloody urine.

*Quercus cum longo pediculo*, *common oak-tree*. It is aluminous, affords acid liquors, a great deal of oil and earth, and some urinous spirit; it is of great use in the dysentery, spittings of blood, the *fluor albus*, and the thrush in the throat.

*Quinquefolium majus*, or *common cinque-foil*. It is vulnerary and astringent, good in all fluxes of blood or humors, good in ulcers of the throat, in gargles.

*Ranunculus præcox*, the *smaller celandine*. It has an herby taste, it is thought to be good for the piles, and ulcers upon the fundament; it is said to be good for the king's evil.

*Rhamnus catharticus*, *buckthorn*. It affords from berries acid oil, fix'd salt and earth; it is purgative, and is used to purge off nervous humors in cold cases; its syrup is most used.

*Rubus idæus*, *rasberry-bush*. The preparations are a wine, a syrup, a ratafie, a vinegar; they are agreeably cooling in small-pox and fevers.

*Ruscus myrtifolius*. The root removes obstructions, in dropsies, cachexies, and scrophulous tumors; it is one of the five of ring-roots.

*Sambucus*, or *common elder*. It affords acid and alkaline liquors,

a great deal of oil and earth; it purges both by stool and urine, evacuates serosities in hydropic cases. The flowers infused in any small liquor, is good in the small-pox; there is a root made of it, by taking one pound of the juice, and half a pound of sugar, thickening them over the fire externally, it is dissolving. An excellent ointment is made of it for burns, by taking two pound of oil olive, one pound of the bark of elder bruised, boil them together, adding now and then a little elder water, till the bark be hard and black; strain and boil it up to an ointment, with four ounces of new wax, and as much of the juice of young elder shoots; observe to keep it from burning. Before it is removed from the fire, add turpentine three ounces, male frankincense three ounces, two hard yolks of eggs; keep it in a stone pot for use.

*Sambucus humilis*, dwarf-elder. The leaves are bitter, the fruit more so; the leaves and tops afford a little acid and urinous spirit, a good deal of oil and earth; the leaves are emollient and resolving, the shoots and bark are purgative in hydropical cases. The leaves are used, boiled in the lees of wine, to discuss dropical and rheumatical swellings.

*Scabiosa pratensis*, field-scabious. It affords acid liquors, sulphur, earth, urinous and volatile salts. It is alexipharmic, sudorific, aperitive, deterfive, vulnerary, and good to promote expectoration; therefore is it used in the small pox, measles, and the pleurisy.

*Scrophularia nodosa*, common nob.

by rooted figwort. Its leaves are bitter and foetid, contain a great deal of volatile salt and oil; it is resolvent, emollient and sweetening, disperses tumors of any kind. An ointment is made of it in the following manner. Take up the roots in Autumn, bruise them with fresh butter, put them a fortnight in a vault, in a pot well stopp'd; then dissolve over the fire, strain through a cloth, keep it for the uses abovesaid.

*Sedum majus*, bouse leek. Contains a salt resembling allum; it is deterfive and astringent; it may be made an ingredient in gargles for the quincy, the leaves are applied to corns; and farriers, with good success, make their horses drink a pint of this juice when they are foundered.

*Senecio minor*, common ground-sell. It has an herby taste, inclining to acid, and it yields acid liquors, a great deal of oil and earth; it is emollient, lenifying, and resolving, kills worms, and cures the colick; it is used externally for the gout and piles, and to dissipate curdled milk in the breast.

*Serpyllum vulgare*, common mother of time. It is bitter and acrid, odoriferous and styptic; it is cephalic, good in convulsive cases, and also stomachic, good in old coughs, and in suppression of urine.

*Synapi rapifolio*, common mustard. Its analysis shews it contains an acrid and acid salt; it is stomachic, diaphoretic, and antiscorbutic, good in dropsies and lethargic cases; it is sometimes applied outwardly in the gout.



*Sisymbrium aquaticum*, water-crasses. It is acrid, and contains acid and alkaline salts, sulphur and earth; it is aperient, diuretic and antiscorbutic; and some affirm, the juice of it takes away the polypus of the nose.

*Sesymnium annuum*, flix weed. It is astringent, good in fluxes of any kind.

*Sium*, a water parsnip. It yields volatile salt and oil, with a great deal of acid, therefore it is a sort of salt ammoniac, therefore is antiscorbutic and aperitive.

*Solanum officinarum*, or common nightshade. It affords a great deal of volatile and concrete salt, besides a great deal of oil. It is a sort of opiate, and they anoint cancers with the juice, rubbed in a leaden mortar, and is used in all narcotic ointments.

*Senchus laevis*, smooth sow-thistle. It is used for a dissolvent, and an aperitive, affording a salt like *sal ammoniac*.

*Symphysium*, or comfrey. It is a glutinous plant, and acts chiefly by its viscid juice. A syrup is made of it very lenifying.

*Tanacetum vulgare*, or common tansy. It contains an aromatic oily volatile salt, loaded with sulphur, and spirits made of it is good to bathe rheumatic pains; it is good in cold cases, by making it into tea.

*Thelypteris veterum*, female fern. It acts like a sort of coral, therefore is it aperitive, good against worms, as the quacks very well know.

*Tithymalus*, *Tithymall*. It is a very strong hydragogue, but dangerous to be used.

*Tormentilla*, *Tormentill*. It contains an aluminous salt, therefore is it vulnerary and astringent, and is now used boiled with the white decoction in fluxes.

*Tussilago vulgaris*, common coltsfoot. It is glutinous and styptic; used in syrup, and mix'd with tobacco in smoking against coughs.

*Valeriana sylvestris major*, or great wild valerian. They are aromatic, or rather foetid, bitter and styptic; it has been used in epileptic, hysteric, and convulsive cases, and is now greatly in use amongst our modern physicians, in the same cases. A scruple of the extract, mix'd with laudanum, one grain makes it more effectual.

*Verbascum mas*, or great white mullein. It is sweet and styptic; it is mostly used externally in the piles, good for burns and *St. Anthony's fire*.

*Verbena*, or vervain. It is vulnerary, deterfive, aperitive, and febrifugous. A tea is made of it against vapours; it contains a good deal of volatile salt and oil.

*Veronica mas*, or *suellin*. Its leaves are bitter, it affords acid oil and earth; it is therefore diuretic, sudorific, vulnerary, and discharges the lungs from glutinous matter.

*Viola martia*, purple sweet violet. It affords acids, oils, and volatile salts. Its juice purges upwards and downwards.

*Ulmaria*, meadow-sweet. It is a little bitter and styptic, affords acid liquors, volatile salts, sulphur and earth; it is sudorific in a moderate manner.



*Urtica urens*, or *stinging-nettle*. It affords volatile salt, sulphur, and earth; and therefore is it detensive, diuretic, and used for that purpose in broths.

We must add, that tho' this author has given us several ana-

lyses of plants, he cannot be said to have deduced the virtues of these plants from their principles; he has only annex'd the virtues assign'd of old to these *analyses*, and left his readers in the dark for the demonstration of their virtues.

## ARTICLE LXIV.

TRAVELS into Muscovy, Persia, and Part of the East-Indies; containing an accurate Description of whatever is most remarkable in those Countries, and embellish'd with above 320 Copper-Plates, representing the finest Prospects and most considerable Cities in those Parts; the different Habits of the People; the singular and extraordinary Birds, Fishes and Plants which are there to be found; as likewise the Antiquities of those Countries, and particularly the noble Ruins of the famous Palace of Persepolis, called Chelminar by the Persians: The whole being delineated on the Spot from the respective Objects. To which is added, An Account of the Journey of Mr. Brants, Ambassador from Muscovy, through Russia and Tartary to China; together with Remarks on the Travels of Sir John Chardon and Mr. Nerapfer, in a Letter to the Author on that Subject. In Two Volumes. By Mons. CORNELIUS LE BRUIN. Translated from the original French. Vol. I.

THE design of this voluminous author seems to be no other than to sketch out places and antiquities found in those parts, which others have omitted, either through negligence, or want of skill in drawing of plans of the principal cities, buildings, and the finest prospects of the provinces. He by the way describes their habits, manners, and customs: he boasts, that no one before him ever had the privilege he obtained from the Czar; and upon this account despises the accounts given by *Pietro de Valle* and *Don Garcias de Sylva de Figuera*, ambassador from Spain at the court of *Abas*, the first king of *Persia*; as well as of several others: he thinks these

gentlemen had not remained long enough in the country, and wanted of the art of designing. The number and beauty of the plates he looks upon as a justification of himself: we will therefore enter upon the book itself.

He first returns thanks to God for enabling him to go through the work. In pursuit of his design, he set sail from *Amsterdam*; at last comes to the mountains on the north-side of *Norway*, of which he drew a prospect: he was shew'd there a whale, which a *French* ship took, that had teeth five inches long, that afforded thirty-two casks of blubber, and seven and a half of salt from behind his neck; this salt they refine at *Bayonne*,

*Bayonne*, and send into foreign parts. He tells us of a large faulcon which had settled upon their ship; but it was fullen, and never would eat. He at last arrived at the coast of *Lapland*, which contains hills of no very great height, and nearly equal. On the 30th of *August* they arrived at the *Isle of Crosses*, so call'd from the crosses which are discover'd as you steer in with it; and got to *Archangel*, into which he was forced to be piloted. At six in the evening they reach'd *New Dwinko*, a place near three leagues distant from *Archangel*, whither when he came he went to visit a countryman of his, called *Adolphus Borohusian*; who inform'd him, that the *Swedes* had appeared in those parts, and had a design upon *Moetjega*, if they had not been deceived by a *Muscovite*, whom they took for their interpreter: as soon as the *Swedes* arrived at *New Dwinko*, they were warmly received with discharges of several cannon; and upon this disappointment they were obliged to return home.

In his second chapter, he gives us a description of the *Samoeds*; their manners, habitations, and way of living. A *Samoed* signifies a man-eater; they are almost all wild, and stretch along the sea-coast quite to *Siberia*: he saw about seven or eight men, and as many women, who were divided in five different tents; they had by them six or seven dogs, tied to as many stakes, who made a furious noise at his approach: he found both the men and women employ'd in making of oars and bows to throw water out of boats, &c. which

they sell among the ships: they have leave to take what wood they want: they are short of stature, and the women have little feet: they have a language peculiar to themselves, tho' they understand the *Russian*: their disagreeable complexion, added to their large eyes and bloated cheeks, and being clad in skins of reindeer, makes them very disagreeable, as you may see by the figure in the author: their habitations are covered with the bark of a tree, and the fire burns in the middle of them: they feed upon carcases of dead oxen, sheep, horses, and other carrion they find, or the guts and garbage of the same boil'd, and eat without bread or salt. The tent was full of raw horse-flesh, and the kettle full of the same dainties, which they did not think fit to skim: a child about eight weeks old was hung up in a trough by two ropes. Whilst he was drawing these things they looked upon him with an eye of pleasure and understanding: they brought him turnips of a surprising beauty, of different colour, some even as fine as a carnation; some of which he painted, and others he sent as presents to his friends in *Holland*: for the representation of all which you may look into the original. He saw a horse about thirty years old, and expiring, which they received with pleasure and joy: they travel in sledges, drawn by reindeer, which are vastly swift: they slide in skates up or down hill: they have chases with seals in the sea, in which they use harpoons and lines, with which they strike



strike them. These things were told by a *Samoed* woman, who came along with her husband to have her picture drawn; which he got out of her by making her drunk with brandy, at which the husband laugh without measure: she told him of the manner of disposing of their children after death: she said, if it was a child at the breast, they wrapt it up in a cloth and hang it up in a tree: they give the name of whatever they see first to the child, whether tree, horse, &c. Children that die after a year old are put into the earth between planks.

When they have a mind to marry they seek out for a wife, and purchase her with three or four rein-deer, which are reckon'd at forty shillings a-piece: they take as many wives as they can maintain; and if they don't please them they send them back to their friends, only losing their purchase-money. When their fathers die, they keep their bones, and never bury them; and even drown them when they are of no farther use: In short, when a man is dead they bury him in his habit and accoutrements as when alive, put him into a pit, and cover him with earth. As to their religion, we having put one of them into a good humour with much brandy, he told us they believed there was a God and a Heaven; that nothing was greater than this mighty God; that *Adam*, the first man, was created by this God; that his descendants neither went to heaven or hell: yet they worshipped idols, the sun, moon, and stars; they believe their priests can foretell any thing.

Between the rivers of *Lena* and *Anier* are the *Tacotts*, who are *Tartars*, and are in most things like the *Samoeds*; but they worship the devil, and prostitute their wives and daughters to strangers.

In his third chapter, he gives a description of *Archangel*, the abundance of provisions there, and the revenue of the customs. About a mile and a half westward from *Archangel*, the *Czar* has an arsenal for building ships, which all shipping must pass by; it lies along the banks of the *Dwina*; it is about two miles long, and three quarters broad. Near the river are lodged the merchants: there is a palace, where there are warehouses to the right and left in a square court: there is a building for the courts of justice; and there is a third building for the merchandize of the *Muscovites*. The citadel, where the governor takes up his residence, is full of shops; the buildings are of timber: there is commonly a stove to each room. The merchants from beyond sea are as nice in their houses as any where in *Europe*; the streets are covered with broken timber, fit to break one's legs; but the winter's snow makes all even: they have a *Calvinist* and a *Lutheran* church, and have nine churches of their own: the burgo-masters have the government of the town: the country abounds with game, and the rivers with fish, of all sorts: meat is so cheap, that beef is but a penny a pound; a whole lamb of six weeks old is sold for fifteen pence; a calf for thirty or forty pence: they all breed turkeys; you may have four or five fowls,



fowls, or a goose, for seven-pence: their beer is very good: they have wine and brandy from *France*. The *Czar's* duties amounted in his time to betwixt a hundred and eighty or ninety thousand rubles; and, computing each ruble to be five florins *Dutch* money, it will amount in *English* coin to about 36000 *l*.

We import from *Muscovy* pot ashes and mead for soap, red leather, hemp, elk's skins, and furs; and your muscles afford a good sort of pearl. He diverted himself whilst he was there with gaming, dancing, eating, and drinking, till late at night; and Mr. *Brants* was an excellent performer on the harpsichord himself.

In his fourth chapter, he leaves *Archangel*, and arrives at *Muscovy*.

Here they travel in sledges, which are so conveniently made that you lie along on a bed, and cover yourself as warm as you please. He arrived at last at *Colmogora*, which is a large City. He went and paid a visit to the archbishop of it, who treated him with cinnamon-water, red wine, and excellent beer. This gentleman was a man of good sense and polite learning, and in his army he shewed us two brass cannon of his own casting. He arriv'd at *Wologda*, and went to see the *sieur Woterr woots de Joan*, a merchant, whom he had known at *Archangel*, whom he received with great civility. The next day he walked about the town, and saw the saboor, or great church, which was built by an *Italian* architect, and had five

domes. The market-place is full of shops well furnished. At *Trooytz* we went to see the famous monastery. This monastery has three gates in front; the church stands in the middle of the square. The *Czar* has fine apartments here. The abbot is so rich, he has sixty thousand peasants that depend upon him, besides the masses, from which, 'tis said, they draw great profit. At length he arrived at *Muscovy*; and in his fifth chapter says, he was admitted into the *Czar's* presence. He says, it is a custom of the twelfth day the *Czar* visits his subjects, or foreigners: the first visit was made to Mr. *Brants*, whither he came with three hundred attendants. The tables were plentifully serv'd; they were very merry, and wanted no liquor. His *Czarian* majesty withdrew about two, and went to mynheer *Lups*, where he was treated in the same manner. Next day he made a visit to the *Dutch* resident, mynheer *Hulet*, to whom he was recommended by mynheer *Whitton*, burgomaster of *Amsterdam*; this gentleman ordered him to be in the room through which the *Czar* was to pass.

As luck would have it, says this author, the prince of *Tobosky* came into the place, and seeing me a stranger, he asked me in *Italian* if I understood that language, and talked to me some time; presently after came in the *Czar*, to whom I made my addresses with a most profound respect, and asked him in *Dutch*, how he came to know who he was? he told him, he had seen his picture at Sir *Godfrey Kneller's* in *London*: as the *Czar* seemed

seemed not at all pleased with the answer; he added, that he had the honour to see him when he came out of his court to go to Mr. Brants, which seemed to please him better: he asked me several questions about my parentage and my travels. All this he did in *Dutch*, and so left me. News was brought him of the defeat of the *Swedes* in *Livonia*. They celebrate the festival of the consecration of the water on the sixth of *January*, of which our author gives a long description; the patriarch goes in procession; they have a place built round, in the middle of which there is a hole made in the ice, into which at last they dip the cross, praying *God to preserve his people, and this his inheritance.*

Upon the 11th there were great rejoicings for the victory over the *Swedes*, when there were fireworks and other decorations for that purpose.

In the sixth chapter, he gives us an account of the execution of a woman who had killed her husband, which was by burying her alive up to the shoulders, and then starving her to death: then he gives us an account of the wedding of a nobleman, which was done in a very pompous manner, with a ludicrous accident that happened at the time. Upon the 2d of *February*, the *Swedish* prisoners were brought in sledges, when the *Czar* was employed in trying some fire-engines brought from *Holland*. The *Czar* called him to shew him an extraordinary accident of a man who voided his

excrements at his navel; after which, hearing that our author could paint, the *Czar* desired him to paint the three young princesses. The author, after this, had the honour of being presented to the empress, whose hand he had the honour to kiss; the reason of his being sent for was, that he might see the ladies before he began his work. Upon the 5th of *March*, he had the honour of dining with the *Czar*, and then he was carried to the empress's apartments, to see the pictures that were just begun.

In his fifth chapter he tells us, that he got leave to have the pictures of the young princesses, which he had painted at large, brought home to his lodgings, to put the finishing hand to them; at the same time he made bold to make a present of his travels, bound up, to the *Czar*. The *Russians* celebrate *Easter* with great pomp, and it is a custom amongst them to present each other with *Easter* eggs, variously coloured. Upon the 21st they celebrated the feast of the virgin *Mary* with great pomp.

In the eighth chapter he gives us an account of a sort of gooseberry, common no where else, which he delineates to us: he says 'tis so pleasantly acid that it makes sherbett, and is used to refresh sick people. He adds, that the productions of *Russia*, as to roots, greens, fruits, and fish, are very plentiful; as to their manners, when they enter a room they say not one word till they have seen the picture of some saint, which they bow thrice to, and say, *Lord*



have mercy on us, or peace be to this house and all that dwell therein; making several signs of the cross upon them; after which, they address themselves to the people of the house.

Their diversion is hawking and hunting, their musick is the harp, kettle-drum, bagpipe, and the hunting horn. When they write they place the paper upon their knees. They have hermits amongst them. He was sent for a second time to paint the princesses, which he says he did with great unwillingness, because it hindered his travelling.

In his ninth chapter, he gives us a description of *Muscow*, of which he gives us a fine prospect, and the readers will be pleased to consult the original: their punishments are burning, beheading, hanging, burying alive, whipping, drubbing, and the torture, besides the punishment they bestow on such debtors as can and will not pay. He then recounts to us the number of *Czars*, patriarchs, and the *Czar's* forces, which are reckoned at 200000. The revenues of this prince arise from skins, furs, corn, leather, ashes, hemp, mats, tar, tallow, and the like, besides the customs of what is imported: he observes here the greater length of days in summer, and the lesser in winter.

In his tenth chapter, he gives us an account that the *Czar*, after his travels, changed the habits and manners into those of other countries. It is observed, that the maids uncover their hair, but the married women cover theirs:

concerning the good regulation made for beggars, who used to be so plentiful, that they surrounded, and often picked the pockets of those who walked in the streets. The *Czar* prevented all this by building them hospitals. These alterations even affected offices, and the treasury of the state. As for the building of ships he made it the public expence. He gives us then an account of the *Czar's* entry into *Muscow*, after the conquest of the *Swedes*.

In his eleventh chapter, he gives an account of the consecration of the palace, which was old and rebuilt; of a present he made to the empress of the picture of the birth of Christ, and the pictures of the young princesses; and being presented with a cup of brandy, and a glass of wine, he returned his most humble thanks and withdrew.

Upon the twelfth day, the *Czar* ordered several noblemen and ladies to make presents to the *Czarina*, according to their abilities, which chiefly consisted in toys of gold and silver, medals, and such like things; their names were registered, and then they retired. He gives us an account of an ugly accident that happened at the wedding of capt. *Starts*, where two surgeons were dancing with their wives; two *French* captains came in, and would needs have them to dance with them, which being refused, each captain stab'd his man, though defenceless and unarmed. The colonel, who was there at the time, prevailed on his servant to take the crime upon himself,



himself, promising him his pardon, and an ensign's place. He was siezed and put to the torture, when he confessed who were the assassins, but too late. The *Russian* custom at births is to send for a priest to purify the child; they give the child the name of a saint, whose festival was kept eight days before; they give the sacrament to the child before they baptize it. After which he descends to give us an account of their funerals, to which we refer our readers.

In his thirteenth chapter, he gives us an account of the *Czar's* going to *Veronitz*, where he begged his majesty would give him leave to draw what he saw remarkable; which he did, and then he took leave of his majesty. In his going forward, he met with an extraordinary mill, contrived by a *Circassian*, of an octogon form; within it are four mills, which work together without any sails outwardly, but within there are seven sails, shut up without by great windows; when there is wind stirring, they open two or three of these windows on the side next to it, so that rushing upon the sails, it sets the machine a going with great violence, as you may see in the original, represented in N<sup>o</sup>. 17.

The *Czar's* houses at *Veronitz* are mostly inhabited by *Circassians*, who are a neat and cleanly people, both in their persons and houses. They are of a pleasant humour, and live agreeably, diverting themselves every day with the violin, and other stringed instruments. The womens dress

is a shift with a girdle, round which they pleat a piece of striped stuff, which hangs down to their feet like a petticoat. They wear a white linnen cloth wound round their head, and they cover part of their chin, &c. as may be seen in the draught. Upon the 2<sup>d</sup>, the *Czar* returned with all his train from *Veronitz*, and the colonel *Badon* was beheaded; and then *St. Craino* was hanged for the murder of the surgeons.

In the fourteenth chapter, our author gives us an account of the churches and reliques, and of a piece of cloth, which a *Tartar* prince made him a present of, woven out of the *asbestos*, which will not consume by burning, but is cleaned thereby.

In the fifteenth chapter, he gives us an account of his departure from *Muscaw* down the river *Walga*, and of his arrival at *Astracan*. In his voyage he drew the prospect of *Columna*, mentioned in No. 8. The villages, he says, all along were very pleasant; and he gives us a prospect of a fine monastery of *Bogostova*, which you see in the original in No. 20. He gives us a description of *Casimoph*, which he says is considerable for extent, but the houses are all wood as well as the churches. They went on shore to buy beer and provisions, but could find none, which however they found a little lower down. He gives you a description of the village of *Alactina*, which contains eight churches and some houses on the side of the river; he came at last to *Morunca*, which is tolerably large, and had seven stately stone churches

churches in it, besides several other wooden ones; here is the best bread in all *Russia*. The manner of begging here is by making signs of the cross on them, and bowing down to the ground. At last they arrived at *Novogrod*, a city surrounded with a fine stone wall; you go through a great market-place to a gate which is built of great blocks of stone; from hence you ascend by a great street full of wooden bridges to the great church built of stone, and with five domes, burnished over with green, and adorned with fine crosses. Here is a merchant who is called *Gregory de Mitri Strogino*, who is reputed the richest merchant in all *Russia*; he had at this place forty eight great barks with ten oars each, and forty hands to load wood. Here you have eight bottles of brandy for forty pence, and every thing else proportionable; a good small duck for a penny, a pullet for three pence, an ordinary sheep for fourteen pence, twenty eggs for a penny, two white loaves, reasonably big, for a penny, a brown loaf of seven or eight pound for a penny, and the beer is reasonably cheap. It is about a hundred and sixty *German* leagues from *Moscow*. Our author would have been glad to have taken a view of it, but it being a holy-day, they would not suffer it to be done, their whole business of these days being to get drunk; which scene he drew in No. 24. Hereabouts are *Russian* pirates, but had they come they were well provided for them. Upon the 8th he and his company arrived at *Bormino*, a town which

is said to contain seven thousand houses. He took a view of *Casan* as he went by, in the best manner he could, as may be seen in No. 26. Hereabouts is found the finest sulphur in the world; a discovery which has not been made above two years; and the *Czar* employs above four thousand persons in the working of it. Their bark at last arrived at *Samaru*, whose prospect he drew, as may be seen in No. 27. They had no sooner got on board their bark, but one of their *Armenians* was taken so ill with a fit, and voiding of blood at his mouth, that he died immediately. Hereabouts the *Tartars* make great ravages. He describes the funeral-ceremony of his *Armenian* companion, which is a particular we need not descend to. In his passage he took a view of the town of *Czaritza*, as may be seen in No. 31.

In his sixteenth chapter, he gives us a description of *Astracan*: this city is in 46 degrees and 22 minutes of northern latitude; to the westward of it there is a great heath, reaching seventy leagues towards the *Black-Sea*, and some leagues southerly quite to the *Caspian*: here is found a fine salt, sent over all *Russia*: it is defended by a good stone wall, a league in circumference, and with ten gates: the great church was built at the expence of the metropolitan; and as they were last year at work upon the dome of this church, a part of it fell down, through fault of the foundation; in lieu of which they were for building five small steeples: 'tis a square building,



ing, about two hundred paces in circumference; the front is sixty-seven broad, and the sides forty-seven long: it is partly built upon the wall of the metropolitan palace. The governor's palace within the citadel is a large wooden building, surrounded with a wall of its own, which is of wood with two gates, the one before, the other behind; and the chapel of the court is without the inclosure of the palace: in this palace are many apartments, well lighted, and very pleasant; but especially a great and very lofty salon, with charming prospects on every side. The chief church, after that of the *Saboon*, is made of brick plaster'd over; the dome of it is gilt, as well as the cross, which is three fathom in length; that beneath is green, as well as those of the steeples. In the morning there is every thing to be had at the *Tartar* market, where the *Armenians* have also the liberty to expose their goods to sale. The *Indians* do their business in the inns. As for the streets, they are not paved, and consequently they are dirty in wet weather. The town is govern'd by a governor and three burgo-masters; the first is president of the town-house, the second has the government of the inns, and the third the direction of his majesty's fishery. Beyond the river, and without the precincts of the city, you see the monastery of *Arvan*. Having thus satisfied his curiosity, he desired leave of the governor to draw what he should think fit, which he readily granted him; the figure of which you may see in

No. 32. Here are a great number of gibbets: here is also abundance of provisions, particularly the *Ballogue* and the *Strellet*; the figures of which our author has drawn. They will sell a fish as big as a cod for five-pence; you may therefore judge of other things in proportion. There are places for the *Indians* and *Armenians* for the sale of their goods. Our author went to visit the deputy-governor, who told him he would have him come and see him every day, and let him know what he could serve him in. This place is full of gardens, well stock'd with vines and fruit-trees: here they have water-melons, and other fruit; and likewise water in plenty. Some days after his arrival, he went to visit the *Persian* ambassador, who had been a prisoner in *Muscow* three years, because the *Czar* and *Persian* king had been at war: he was sitting upon a sofa, after the *Tartar* manner: he received him very obligingly, and gave him coffee and colebnabat, and very pleasant white liquor, made of sugar and rose-water: he was a person of a comely presence, and of great affability; his mustacho's reach'd to his very ears, and his beard hung a quarter of an ell below his chin, which was shaved; his turban was white, and his coftan or vest was tied about him with a sash of gold cloth; he had a fine gangar at his side, and smok'd with a caljan, after the *Persian* manner; he had two servants at his side, and he on the right-hand was arm'd with a great sabre.

About



About seven years ago they made a discovery of salt-petre in the mountains, and work upon it with great success. All the time he was in the city, the governor continued to treat him with great civilities: at last, he desired him to draw the picture of himself and his son, which he did; and the governor, on his part, did every thing to oblige him.

The *Tartars* way of living is to have tents like cages, with laths three or four inches broad, covered with a hair cloth, and some of them are thatched, with a hole at the top to let out the smoke, with a pole and a hole to turn it to what side of the wind they please. In some of these you see fine chests and trunks, in which they lock up their valuable things; and in general every thing about them is extremely neat. When they change their place of habitation, they carry these cages in waggons, and the men attend them on horseback. When they perceived it was curiosity only that drew him our author thither, they suffer'd him to enter, where he saw a charming well-dress'd *Brunette*, whose head-attire was very remarkable, being made of gilt silver or copper, whom he afterwards painted; the rest of her head was gold ducats, pearls, and precious stones. He drew also their tents, as may be seen in No. 36 and 37. One lady he drew who had a fine upper-garment, cover'd with a white veil, which hid her face, which at his request she took off: her attire was covered with gold ducats, with a number of pearls in tresses, and pointed at

top like a mitre: she had silver chains over her shoulder and about her waist, and some silver boxes by her side, in which were her toys and prayer-books. This lady was one of the most considerable among the *Tartars*.

The 21st our author was invited to a feast of the governors, where he was handsomely entertained, and as handsomely re-conducted.

The *Tartar* horses, especially those for the carmens use, he says, are the finest he ever saw. Mr. *Wigne* at this time was advanced to be a colonel by the *Czar*; upon which he made a handsome entertainment, where our author was. The governor, at his departure from *Astracan*, made him a present of brandy, vinegar, beer, wine, bacon, dry'd fish, biscuits, and some other provisions; for which he return'd him a thousand thanks.

In the seventeenth chapter, our author gives his reasons for inserting in this place the route of Mr. *Isbrants Ides* through *Muscovy* in his way to *China*; his departure from *Muscovy*; the source of *Dwina*; his arrival in the country of *Syrenes*; a description of the people of that province: he embarked upon the *Canoe*, and cross'd from *Europe* to *Asia*.

*Muscovy* is grown so considerable in the eyes of *Europe*, that it almost concerns every individual to look into its conduct; and as our author only cross'd part of the country, it was thought convenient to add the observations of Mr. *Isbrants Ides* concerning the road he took from *Muscovy* to *China*.

*China*. He travelled from *Muscow* in a sledge: having met with bad weather, he was forced for some time to defer his journey. He gives us an account of the source of the *Dwina*, on which goods go down this river. Here you meet with the city of *Astiga*, and that of *Solnitz Jegda*; where are a great many merchants, excellent workmen in silver, copper, and ivory; where are also fine salt-pits, producing a great quantity of that mineral, which they transport to different places.

He then arrives to the country of the *Syrenes*; the inhabitants whereof speak a language quite different to the *Russian*; they are of the *Greek* church, and subject to his *Czarian* majesty, to whom they pay the customary dues; but they have no governor. They chuse their own judges, and if any dispute arises which they cannot determine, they are obliged to go to *Muscow* to have it decided. Their dress is like that of the *Russians*, and their language resembles that of *Courland*, though they know nothing of the matter from whence they came. Most of them subsist by agriculture, and most of them also live in villages and hamlets.

With much ado from storms and rainy weather this ambassador arrived at *Caigorod*, where he provided himself with all necessities. This part is much infested by pirates, and the governor of the town informed him, that upon a certain day about noon, they saw a number of barks full of men falling down the river, with colours flying, and drums beating,

and making directly for the town, which they had no sooner reached, than the people in the barks jump'd on shore; that the inhabitants, not in the least dreaming of a surprize in the face of the sun, and at a time of peace, suffered them unmolested to draw near, not doubting but they were neighbours and friends, who were come from the villages round about to divert themselves: That these pirates set fire to the south end of the town, and put all they met with at the other to the sword: that they then went to the *Dweds*, where they committed all sorts of hostility, and used their servants in the worst manner they could; and as there were none to oppose them, they went off laden with great booty: that it was afterwards understood they were vassals of certain lords, from whose obedience they had withdrawn themselves, to commit all sorts of violences: that some of them had been taken and executed, as an example to the rest. This made it necessary for him to provide himself with arms, and to stand upon his guard.

He arrived at last at *Solicamscoy*, a fine large rich city, where are numbers of considerable merchants, very fine salt works, and above fifty boilers of twenty-five or thirty-five ells in breadth. They here make very great quantities of the salt, which they transport every year to different places, in large vessels, in each of which they load 120,000 weight of salt, or 800 or 1000 casks, without reckoning seven or eight hundred hands, for whom they have furnaces,

furnaces, and other things necessary for transportation. Their vessels are 35 or 40 ells in length, with one mast and one sail thirty fathom long. They are flat at

bottom, and have neither bolts nor nails. Thus they fall down the *Canoe* into the *Walga*: they return by the help of tow-lines.

## ARTICLE LXV.

## LITERARY NEWS.

## AMSTERDAM.

THE company of *Amsterdam* have done honour again to the chevalier *Chardin*, to reprint his voyages; the edition is fair and exact. It is printed in four volumes in quarto. This book is well esteemed, and deserves to be so. We know by it the country of *Persia*, almost as distinctly as if we had been there. This is certain, that no part in *Europe* is better described than he has done this.

The death of *Julius Cæsar*, a tragedy of monsieur *Voltaire*, the second edition, reviewed and augmented by the author, pag. 61. printed at *Amsterdam* by *James de Bordes*, 1736. It were to be wished, that monsieur *de Voltaire* had examined this piece with the same severity as the great *Corneille* did his, perhaps he might have answered some difficulties that puzzle us. The verses are harmonious and smooth, the sentiments are noble. There is very great art made use of in the design; friendship fills up the place of love; unity of place, and unity of time, are exactly observed. Mean while, we dare say, there are faults hitherto esteemed essential to be found with this piece. Truth or probability are the foundation of a tragedy, and the basis of all the sentiments you are to advance; without this all is a vain declamation. Now *Brutus* was not the son of *Cæsar*, nor did he ever pass for such. If any author ever made this supposition, others cried out upon it as a madness; the contrary opinion so far prevailed, that it has passed for a constant truth. We are sorry therefore, that the author, contrary to all the rules of tragedy, has made use of a fable, or a supposition that has always been despised, in the place of truth.

## ERRATA in October 1736.

P. 366. l. 1. c. 2. r. *mercantile*. ib. l. 38. r. *white*. p. 367. l. 24. in the margin *a* for *u*; ib. 33. for *5 a* r. *5 a*. for 26. r. 126. p. 368. l. 20. for *3 a b*. r. *4 a b*. ib. l. 23. for *3 + dd* r. *2 + dd*. ib. l. 32. del. —. p. 370. l. 5. for *b d* r. — *b d*. ib. l. 14. for — *a b*. r. — *a*. p. 372. l. 1. after *ix—o* r *ix7—o*. p. 374. l. 13. in subtraction, for *a* in the subtrahend r. *d*. p. 379. l. 2. r. for *cc*, *cc*. p. 383. l. 18. for *mean* r. *men*. p. 384. l. 1. for 2. r. 20.

THE